



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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November 13, 2009

To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
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From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

STATUS REPORT – NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM'S PLANS TO TRANSFER COUNTY HISTORIC AUTOMOBILE COLLECTION AND ASSESSMENT OF VEHICLES PRIOR TO ANY DISPOSITION

On November 6, 2007, your Board approved the termination of the County Historic Automobile Collection Agreement with the Petersen Automotive Museum Foundation and ordered the Chief Executive Officer to report back to the Board on the Natural History Museum's (NHM) plans to assess the County-owned historic automotive vehicle collection (County Collection) before any cars are sold, or proposed to be sold. Since that date, NHM has proceeded with moving the County Collection vehicles to the new County-leased space. New loan agreements were signed for the vehicles that remain at the Petersen Automotive Museum (Petersen).

The status at this time is as follows:

- The collections management report has been reviewed by the Museum's senior collections staff and the Museum's newly-appointed Vice President for Research and Collections. Dr. John Long is preparing an Executive Summary which should be completed prior to the submission of the next Status Report;
- The Museum's collections management staff has continued to attempt to schedule with the Petersen Museum its transfer of the two vehicles remaining at the Petersen and not on exhibit, but the Petersen staff has been unable to provide available dates; and

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- The Museum held its first event at the Gardena warehouse, a very well-received presentation on the collection to the Fellows, the Museum's highest-level support group.

When complete, the collection assessment and management plan will be presented to your Board. The next status report will be provided by February 14, 2009 or earlier if the Collections Management Report is completed before this date.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding the status report, please contact Robert Moran at (213) 974-1130, or via email at rmoran@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:LS
DSP:RTM:os

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Acting County Counsel
Director and President of the Natural History Museum